

# FREDERICK WM. AND SARAH JANE BOND GILES



Frederick William Giles and his wife, Sarah Jane Bond Giles, were born about the time Heber was settled, he in Provo on February 24, 1860, son of Frederick and Mary Ann Moulton Giles, and she in Heber on May 31, 1864, daughter of Jesse and Sarah Adams Bond.

Their parents joined the Church in England, crossed the plains in 1855-56, and are listed with the first settlers of Provo Valley. The first cabins were built close together for a protection from the Indians, in what was called the old fort. In a year

or two the people were allowed to move to their own lots. The Giles family built a two-room log house on Third North and First West, while the Bonds moved to Second North and Main Street.

Their childhood and youth were spent helping on the farm and in the home. As a mere boy, Frederick herded cows in the foothills north of Heber, known as the London hills. When he was older he helped with all the farm work. They put in many long, hard hours, as all the plowing, planting, cutting and reaping had to be done by hand, with only very crude, hand-made implements and equipment.

Being the eldest daughter, Sarah was obliged to help in the home. There was a large family of nine children and they had to knit all the stockings and make all the clothing by hand, most of which had to be done with a kerosene lamp at night for light. She had to carry ditch water for use in all things, drinking, cooking, and washing, until they found time to dig a well.

They both attended school in the first school houses built, which were of log, with rough benches for seats. They advanced by readers instead of grades and paid their own tuition for the first few years.

All meetings were held in the school houses. When the old hall was built on Main Street they used it for all their meetings, dances, theaters, etc. They both taught in the Sunday Schools held in that building and later on he was the secretary.

Sarah's father was made janitor of the old hall, so she had to help keep it clean and in order, which was hard work, as they had to heat and carry all the water from home. If a dance had been held on Saturday night, which was often the case, they had to work late into the night to get it ready for Sunday School the next morning.

Being active in the Church, Frederick was advanced from Deacon to High Priest in the priesthood, and held many positions in both the West and Third Wards. He was theological teacher in Sunday School, president of the YMMIA, and assistant in the Stake Sunday School superintendency. In October, 1894, he was chosen as one of the counselors to Bishop Thomas Hicken, and when the stake was divided into three wards he was made ward clerk on Febru-

363

364

HOW BEAUTIFUL UPON THE MOUNTAINS

ary 15, 1903. He was clerk but a short time when, on November 8, 1903, he was made first counselor to Bishop Frederick Crook, which position he held twenty-nine years. Most of the time he was in the bishopric he was the parents' or gospel doctrine class leader in Sunday School.

He spoke at numerous funerals and was called upon many, many times to help administer to the sick. During the 1880s and '90s he belonged to the Dramatic Club, which consisted of young men and women, who put on plays in all the surrounding towns and counties.

They were married in the Logan Temple on November 10, 1886, by Marriner W. Merrill. They made the trip by wagon. Two other Heber couples made the trip with them and were married at the same time. It required nine days, as they ran into a severe snowstorm on the way.

With the money he had saved by working for his uncle on the ranch north of town, and also hauling freight to Greenriver, they were able to purchase some land. They started to raise cattle and built a house on Second West and Sixth South Streets. Their seven children were born there, except the oldest. Their names follow: Zella Giles Moulton, Alva Giles, Lula Mary Giles Watkins, Sara Winona Giles, Ida Lapriel Giles Walker, Mabel Inez Giles Turner, and Violet Elverda Giles Peal. They were able to send four of the children to the BYU and a daughter on a mission.

On January 26, 1908, he was called on a mission to Great Britain, leaving on February 12. He labored in the Grimsby and Hull Conferences, being president of the latter. He filled an honorable mission and returned home April 4, 1910. He was released from the bishopric while he was away for the two years, but resumed his duties upon his return.

In 1912 the bishopric planned and built the present Third Ward chapel.

Having been in poor health a number of years, Sarah passed away May 12, 1924. After her death, Frederick continued on alone for twelve more years, working in the bishopric until Bishop Crook was released in 1931. He remained active in the Church, teaching most of the time in the Sunday School until his death.

He was president of the Spring Creek Irrigation Co. for a number of years and retained that position to the last. On June 7, 1936, he met with an accident at his home and passed away the next day at the age of 76.